



Grundtvig LLP Evaluation

Dub radio techniques, new technologies and digitalisation to support multilingualism in Europe



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Methodology

The design of the evaluation was discussed at the meeting in Belfast on February 1st 2013 when all partners were present. This evaluation was carried with all the partners. The main evaluation day was May 30th in Irun. There have been other opportunities for partners have had opportunities to feedback via e-mail. The lead people from all partners were present and the questions and issues were discussed. Each partner filled out 2 items, a tick-box questionnaire and a more detailed Q&A. All details below.

Partners

Nearfm, Dublin, Ireland

Raidió Failte, Belfast, UK

Radio Kultura, Basque Country, Spain

Radio Fro, Linz, Austria

ANTXETA IRRATIA, Basque Country, France

Conclusions:

General

All the partners reached their mobility targets. There was a very good spread of man and women in the participants. The project was completed within the timeframe.

Dissemination

There is ample evidence of dissemination, as one would expect from radio stations. It seems that the practical element of recording material while on station visits was very useful. It brought an immediate and very hands-on approach to the exchange of learning. It meant that lots of made multi-lingual programming was produced and broadcast. There were also practical workshops given by one partner, Antxeta Irratia, and this added another dimension.

The promotional aspect is somewhat different and more use could have been made of social media to promote the project to a wider audience. That said the partners' close associations with AMARC and CMFE made it easy to promote the project to a wide range of community media partners. See details below.

European Dimension

There is lots of evidence of the value of the European dimension. Regularly mentioned was the capacity for the partners to compare and contrast experience in their own countries, to look at legal and regulatory differences in the various EU countries. There were differences in the possibilities for financial support for minority and multi-lingual programming, depending on the various historical backgrounds of the languages in each partner country. One first time Grundtvig partner, said that the participation for the first time in a European Grundtvig project has allowed collaboration with other partners (Austria, Ireland north and South, and Spain) so to learn and contribute to a joint working dynamic.

Other agencies involvement

This aspect appeared to work quite well and to be very welcome from all of the partners. From visits to Community TV stations in Linz and Belfast, to the various talks given by other national and local dignitaries. This in itself was also a very valuable aspect of promoting the project to specific target groups, where perhaps a small influence on policy is possible.

Best aspects

The opportunities to exchange learning were clearly the best aspect of this project with all partners stating this quite strongly. The variety of settings also seems to have assisted this process. There were round-table meetings with the key people from each partner country; there were broader meetings for all participants; learners and teachers; there were practical workshops on journalism/ approaches to multi-lingual programming; there were panel discussions; round-table radio programmes; launches and cultural and social occasions. This variety seems to have led to have given the project a great strength in depth.

There was also a very strong sense that partners were highly motivated to learn and exchange best practice. All partners also believed that they had contributed positively to the project. It was broadly agreed that there were ample opportunities for feedback and evaluation. Finally the sense that there was was a new framework and potential for European projects and further collaboration.

Recommendations /Areas to improve

The scores on the questionnaire were very positive, but there were two areas that did not scored quite so well. They were '*communications between the partners was very good*' and '*There was good use of digital technologies in this work*'.

While neither scored very low either, there is clearly room for improvement here. These areas cross over too, as more use of digital technologies would likely lead to better communications.

'communications between the partners was very good'

There is clearly a need for more regular contact and use of older technologies such as e-mail and phone would help here. There needs to be more and earlier use of social media too. More time and careful consideration needs to be spent on preparing agendas. And clearly more use of social media would help here too. It is also mentioned that more information sharing among all partners about bi-lateral/regional meetings on the development of meetings in Ireland and the Basque Country would have been helpful.

'There was good use of digital technologies in this work'.

The website needs to be set up very early in the project to allow for more communication and promotion and not late in the project. There needs to be more use of podcasts to disseminate the programming that was made.

Overall this was a highly successful project evaluated against a wide range of yardsticks. It measured up really well in terms of reaching the targets it set for itself. There is great motivation and enthusiasm from the partners to continue with this work.

Grundtvig Minority language Evaluation

All scores all logged below, with the dominant score in red.

Name: _____ Organisation: _____

Role: _____ Date: _____

Below are a series of statements. Please respond by **circling** the number you feel most reflects your opinion.

Statement	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree or Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
There was good progress made in exchange of best practice in the field of multilingualism	5	4444			
We were able to benefit from knowledge of very different experiences of the various partners	555	44			
The project was able to enhance the role of minority languages in media in the construction of individual and collective awareness of European citizenship, as well as an expression of active citizenship in a democratic setting.	5	4444			
We gained knowledge and awareness of the reality of the languages in which each organisation works	55	444			
There was good use of digital technologies in this work		444		33	
There was good opportunity for ideas exchange and group work	555	44			
I feel I contributed positively to the project	5555	4			
Communications between partners was very good	5	444		3	
I was motivated to learn and continue with an exchange of learning and best practice.	555	44			
There was opportunity for feedback and evaluation	5555	4			
The work of this project should be continued and developed	5555	4			

General questions and answers given by each partner

Q How did you disseminate the learning? (samples)

Fro: Radio; local newspaper; website; research report programmes.

Also with Fro team – workshops, talks with volunteers and programme-makers

Radio Kultura: broadcasting multi-lingual programming, visually adapting the Kultura website to these programmes to make these programmes accessible.

Nearfm: We used community radio and community tv. We also reported to the European bodies AMARC and CMFE to try to influence policy at that level. We used our website and social media. We also informed our local adult education college about the project.

Raidió Fáilte: Volunteer network, other media (social media print online, broadcast)
On radio, website, Facebook, newspaper articles

Antxeta Irratia: We conducted three types of dissemination:

1) within our organization (Assembly of volunteers, board and team employees) have reported progress periodically

2) we performed practical exercises with simultaneous translation programming that have been broadcast and available on our website as well as in the collective web project

3) we performed practical workshops in the framework of the regional meetings of the Partners of the Basque Country (Spain / France)

Q. How many mobilities did you complete? How many people took part in mobilities? How many men, and how many women?

Fro: 12 mobilities; 9 people; 4 women, 5 men

Kultura: 12 mobilities: 9 people; 3 women, 6 men.

Nearfm: 24 mobilities: 16 people; 10 women; 8 men.

Raidió Fáilte: 12 mobilities, 8 people, 2 women, 6 men

Antxeta Irratia: 13 mobilities, 8 people, 4 men and 4 women

Q How did you use media to bring added value to the project,? Eg; Multi-lingual or collaborative media/radio pieces, social media, newspapers, other etc.

Fro: multilingual radio shows (5.0)

Kultura: Four raido programmes with different languages; one in three languages and 3 in four languages. The languages included (Irish , Basque, German, English & French)

Nearfm: We used radio to make lots of interviews and items. We also used social media including twitter.

Raidió Failte: Live radio broadcast during grundtuig European partnership visit to Belfast in January 2013. Recording (audio/photographic)throughout the project

Broadcast on radio newspaper articles Facebook and other websites

Antxeta Irratia: Being a community radio broadcasting in FM and on the Internet, this component is very present throughout the development of the project.

In addition, after the Grundtvig Agency of Austria asked at the time of the interim report, the need for specific productions, we have included this component in the second part of the project.

The meeting in May 2013 in Donostia-Irun, to coincide with the European Encounters II Community Radio organized jointly by Antxeta Irratia and PausuMedia was widely reported in the Basque Country in France and Spain.

In our case, being a border radio that works primarily in the Basque language, the three languages of our broadcast area (Basque, Spanish and French) have a permanently balanced development.

Q How many other agencies and organisations took part and what did they do? le they gave a talk, a meeting, hosted a seminar etc?

Fro: Radio Agora (who have native Austrian (as opposed to immigrant) minority language community in their area. There was a seminar with them

Association Arcobalero (Intercultural meeting Centre, Linz) did a radio programme – Lange Nacht der Sprechen (long night of talking)

Kultura: Emmanuel Bouterin, SNRL, (FREch National Federation president) spoke at a conference in Bayonne.

Nearfm: We visited Radio na Life, the Irish language community radio station in Dublin.

Foras na Gaeilge, the state body with responsibility for the Irish language and they gave a talk on their work.

Everyone at the Dublin meeting attended launch of a Nearfm series of programmes on Intercultralism in European Commission House in Dublin. The series was launched by Minister for Justice, Alan Shatter.

Raidió Failte:

Ofcom (UK Broadcasting Authority) -a presentation on digitilisation in the UK

a presentation on Interreg – Atlantic axis

nvtv – a visit to local community television station

Antxeta Irratia: The meeting in May 2013 in Donostia-Irun, to coincide with the European Encounters II Community Radio organized jointly by Antxeta Irratia and PausuMedia (Project Partners) was also co-hosted one of its activities with the women's association broadcasters Bozak-Women for communication rights.

In the same assisted the City of Donostia and the Provincial Council of Gipuzkoa.

In the same plus two conferences were held on two of the days of the meeting.

Q Have you succeeded in creating and/or introducing and establishing a *European dimension in learning*? Eg: cultural awareness: radio programming etc, digital aspects?

Fro: Yes! We became much more aware of the reality of community radios' across Europe.

We learned how other community radios in other countries broadcast in different languages. We also learned a lot about the experiences of and the differences between local minority language community radio and radio stations that broadcast in various local migrant languages.

Nearfm: The recognition of similar problems (eg Basque and Irish language) and looking to new ways to approach this and learning from their experiences.

The comparing and contrasting of radio programming in immigrant languages in different countries (eg Polish in Ireland and Polish in Austria and UK)

Learning about the cultural and historical backgrounds and settings of minority languages were very interesting too.

Raidió Fáilte: participation in European day of languages – recording and production of cd A schools project/ singing in Irish language. Euronet European radio,

Antxeta Irratia: Antxeta Irratia was created based on three fundamental pillars:

- A community radio, participatory community service
- A radio in Basque language
- Cross-border radio broadcasting quite naturally in a cross-border region (Spain and France).

This latter aspect gives a European dimension intrinsic to their very existence. Antxeta Irratia strongly believes that European integration should be from the grassroots movement, from local projects in Europe.

Moreover, the participation for the first time in a European Grundtvig project has allowed collaboration with other partners (Austria, Ireland north and South, and Spain) so to learn and contribute to a joint working dynamic.

Since then Antxeta Irratia has been involved in Youth in Action projects and since 2013 is engaged with European youth programme under the European Voluntary Service Initiative. We believe that participation in Grundtvig project has been instrumental to open cultural perspectives within radio and encourage it to participate in more projects.

The exchange of good practices and practical experience have enabled us to improve our techniques of simultaneous translation and our positioning in the switch-over to Digital Radio.

Q □ Which aspects of the project worked best? How could the work of the project be improved?

Fro: 1. European Encounters – great opportunity for teachers and learners to widen their horizons and get to know other community radio people and stations from across Europe

Fro 2. Improve: More practical workshops of course! More use of social media platforms from the start of the project; in order to achieve more exchange of radio programming etc.

Kultura: the best aspect was the possibilities to learn radio stations organise multi-lingualism in their own radio and the reality of the radio itself. The practical aspects in multi-lingual programming was very worthwhile.

Nearfm: extra speakers and guests from other agencies (eg Mayor in Irun)

Panel discussions; practical elements of recording interviews and snippets for radio programmes:

Improvements: communications could be better: social media needs to be used more, especially from the start: promotions could be improved: clarity of agendas: continuity and consistency of lead persons from all stations.

Raidió Failte: sharing the experiences /good practice and developing methodologies regarding the use of multilingual content in community radio

building networks/contacts for the future collaborations

building awareness of minority/immigrant languages in the context of building European citizenship

Exchange of information during the mobilities worked well

There could have been more practical work in the various stations during mobilities

Antxeta Irratia: What worked best was one of the objectives of the project: that the meetings of the Partners of the Grundtvig was a new framework for European projects and further collaboration when projects have been successful.

We Should improve communication between the Partners Europe between meetings and more information among all partners on the development of regional meetings in Ireland and the Basque Country.

Q. Would you recommend participation in similar projects to others? If not, please outline your reasons.

Fro: Of course!

Kultura: Yes we would recommend it.

Nearfm: We would highly recommend participation in such a project

Raidió Failte: Yes a very worth while project raising awareness of issues of multilingual broadcasting

Antxeta Irratia: Yes, In fact we have requested a second project Grundtvig

Any other comments:

Fro: Met new friends, renewed old friendships, improved my language skills, and gained from international solidarity.

Nearfm: It was culturally very interesting, visiting new places and meeting interesting people. We learned a lot about the various similarities and differences in European culture and experience. We made some new friends too.

Raidió Failte: Digital technologies are continually developing at a fast pace, possibly to extent not predicted at the outset of the project and we need to be more aware of these changes and the opportunities they offer.

Participation in this project has provided leverage to serve other sources of support/finding for our community station thereby supporting the presentation of an endangered minority language

Thank you for taking the time to complete this form. Your input is an integral part of the evaluation and review process.